THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI O.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) There are 7 scheduled private airlines namely M/s Archana Airways, East West Airlines, Jet Airways, Modiluft, NEPC Airlines, Sahara India Airlines and Skyline NEPC. the facilities provided to these airlines include check in counters, conveyor belts office space, space for parking equipments used for ground handling services, communication facilities X-ray baggage inspection system etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As regards providing taking off and landing facilities, Airports Authority of India levies charges on the basis of maximum take-off weight of the aircraft. Charges for other facilities are levied on the basis of amounts fixed from time to time.

Cases of Misuse of Modvat

987. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of misuse of MADVAT that have been detected during the last three years and what is the amount involved; and

(b) whether Government still consider that MODVAT is more beneficial than Customs duty in view of the gross misuse?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Details of cases of misues of MODVAT which have been detected during the last three years alongwith the amount involved is as follows;

Years	No. of cases de tected	Amount involved
1993-94	4786	238 crores
1994-95	18870	696 crores
1995-96	18041	944 crores

(b) There is no correlation between MODVAT and Customs duty. MODVAT is an input duty relief given to the manufacturer to avoid cascading effect of taxation whereas Customs duty is a tax on imports leviable under the Customs Act of 1962.

Effective functioning of Private airlines

988. DR. D. MASTHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tnat due to privatisation of some of the domestic airlines, the private airlines are working upto expectation.

(b) if not, what action has been take.i by Government to ensure effective functioning of the private airlines; and

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to cancel the licence of the private airlines in case they are not functioning upto the mark?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) All Airlines including private airlines are rquired to function in accordance with the Aircarft Act, Rules and Regulations. Action is taken against the Airlines violating any of the provisions.

Introduction of 'Speed Post' and 'Fax' Facilities in Government Offices

989. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the introduction of 'Speed Post' and 'Fax' facilities in Government Offices, the mail which used to be sent by post are now being sent by speed post costing the Exchequer more money and similarly FAX has taken the place of Telegrams;

(b) if so, whether Government have carried out any survey of the increase in expenditure;